## Message Text

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**ORIGIN EA-09** 

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SNM-02 DEAE-00 /012 R

DRAFTED BY EA/TB - RMGIBSON:MFG APPROVED BY S/NM - DERNST EA/TB - GBROBERTS EA/RA - WGALLAGHER (DRAFT) S/NM - JRAFFERTY (DRAFT)

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R 151502Z SEP 75 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK AMEMBASSY RANGOON INFO AMCONSUL CHIANG MAI

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: SNAR, TH, BM

SUBJECT: SSA/SUA OPIUM BUYING PROPOSAL

REFERENCE: STATE 64556

- 1. IN AN AUGUST 11 LETTER TO CONGRESSMAN WOLFF THE SSA (COL. KHUN LOUMPHA) AND SUA (COL. SAO PHA LANG) RENEWED THEIR OFFER TO SELL OPIUM TO THE USG. THE CONGRESS PASSED THE LETTER TO THE DEPT. AND WE HAVE REPRODUCED IT BELOW.
- 2. BEGIN TEXT: WITH REFERENCE TO THE JOINT SUA-SSA PROPOSAL MADE TO YOU ON DATED 18TH JANUARY 1975 FOR AN INITIAL SALE IN JULY 1975 OF 6 (SIX) TONS OF OPIUM AS A GESTURE OF OUR SINCERITY AND AS A SIGN OF INTEREST ON THE PART OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES, WE HAVE NOW AT OUR DISPOSAL THE SAID AMOUNT OF RAW OPIUM.

WE WOULD THEREFORE LIKE TO BE ADVISED ON WHAT IS TO BE DONE WITH THE COMMODITIES. UNTIL WE HEAR FROM YOU WE SHALL KEEP THEM IN STORAGE. HOWEVER, WE BEG TO INFORM LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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YOU THAT WE CANNOT AFFORD TO WAIT FOR LONG BECAUSE OF OUR

COMMITMENTS TO THE GROWERS. THAT IS TO SAY, IF NO ACTION CAN BE TAKEN EITHER BY THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT OR YOU, SIR, TO PURCHASE THESE SIX (6) TONS, WE SHALL HAVE TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS TO GET RID OF THE SIX TONS THROUGH PRIVATE CHANNELS.

WE WOULD BE GREATFUL FOR AN EARLY REPLY FROM YOU BECAUSE APART FROM OUR COMMITMENTS TO GROWERS, WE DO NOT LIKE TO, FOR OBVIOUS REASONS, KEEP THE SIX TONS IN OUR HANDS FOR LONGER THAN NECESSARY.

WITH ALL OUR REGARDS AND RESPECT. SAO PHA LANG, COLONEL, SHANLAND UNITED ARMY (SUA) AND KHUN LOUMPHA, COLONEL, SHAN STATE ARMY (SSA).

3. THE DEPARTMENT'S POSITION ON THIS ISSUE REMAINS AS PREVIOUSLY STATED. AT THEIR DISCRETION THE MISSIONS MAY INFORM HOST GOVERNMENTS OF THIS NEW SSA/SUA OFFER AND OUR CONTINUED ADHERENCE TO THE POSITION SET FORTH IN REFTEL. KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld

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To: BANGKOK RANGOON

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